



United States Department of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service



Illinois Department
of Agriculture

Illinois Field Office • PO Box 19283 • Springfield, IL 62794-9283 • www.nass.usda.gov • 800-622-9865

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2008

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
Brad Schwab or Mark Schleusener

SPRINGFIELD IL - The Illinois Field Office of NASS today released the USDA's **June Acreage and Grain Stocks Reports**. Highlights of the report include:

JUNE ACREAGE ILLINOIS

A sample of the previously contacted producers was re-interviewed between June 23rd and 25th, in order to better assess the conditions in the field. Throughout the spring, producers were hampered by above normal precipitation, which caused standing water in fields and flooding.

Corn planted in Illinois in 2008 is estimated at 12.3 million acres, down 300 thousand acres from the March Prospective Plantings Report, and down 900 thousand acres from last year. Acreage planted to biotechnology varieties is estimated at 80 percent of the total acreage, up from 74 percent last year. Bt varieties account for 13 percent, herbicide resistant varieties account for 15 percent, and 52 percent of the total corn acres were planted to stacked-gene varieties. Acreage expected to be harvested for grain is currently estimated at 11.5 million. After continued weather delays, conditions are improving allowing producers to finish up planting throughout the state. The crop was rated 11 percent excellent, 45 percent good, 32 percent fair, 9 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor as of June 22.

Acreage planted and to be planted to **soybeans** in Illinois in 2008 is estimated at 9.1 million acres, which is 300,000 acres above the March intentions and 900 thousand above a year ago. Of the total acreage planted, an estimated 87 percent was planted with herbicide resistant varieties. Of the planted acreage, 8.6 million are projected to be harvested. Only 66 percent of the intended soybean acreage had been planted at the time of the survey interview, compared with the average of 92 percent for the last five years. The crop was rated as 4 percent excellent, 47 percent good, 39 percent fair, 8 percent poor, and 2 percent very poor on June 22. Additional update surveys will be conducted around August 1 and results will be published in the August Crop Production Report on August 12.

(more)

An estimated 1.2 million acres of **winter wheat** were seeded in Illinois last fall, up 20 percent from the previous year. Harvested acreage is expected to total 1.16 million acres, up 30 percent from last year. As of June 22, 32 percent of the wheat crop was ripe, compared to 85 percent last year and the five-year average of 77 percent. Harvest had just begun and was only 3 percent complete, compared to 63 percent last year and the average of 46 percent.

UNITED STATES

Corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 87.3 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Despite the decrease, corn planted acreage is the second highest since 1946, behind last year's total of 93.6 million acres. Growers expect to harvest 78.9 million acres for grain, down 9 percent from 2007. If realized, this would be the second highest since 1944, behind last year. Farmers increased corn plantings 1.31 million acres from their March intentions. Planting got off to a slow start across the Corn Belt, Ohio Valley, and the northern half of the Great Plains as frequent precipitation and cool temperatures during March and April prevented spring planting preparations. Corn planting was 27 percent complete on May 4, down 32 points from normal. Despite intermittent showers and below normal temperatures, producers were able to make rapid progress during May, particularly across the upper Midwest and northern Great Plains. Planting was at 97 percent of the intended corn acreage at the time of the survey interview compared with the average of 98 percent for the past 10 years.

Soybean planted area for 2008 is estimated at 74.5 million acres, up 17 percent from last year but 1 percent below the record high acreage in 2006. Area for harvest, at 72.1 million acres, is up 15 percent from 2007. Compared with last year, planted acreage increases are expected in all States, and the U.S. planted area for soybeans is the third largest on record. The largest increase is expected in Nebraska, up 950,000 acres from 2007, followed by Illinois and South Dakota, both up 900,000 acres. Increases of at least 800,000 acres are also expected in Indiana, Iowa, and Minnesota. If realized, the planted acreage in Kansas, New York, and Pennsylvania will be the largest on record. Nationally, 79 percent of the intended soybean acreage had been planted at the time of the survey interview, which is the lowest since 1996.

All wheat planted area is estimated at 63.5 million acres, up 5 percent from 2007. The 2008 winter wheat planted area, at 46.6 million acres, is 4 percent above last year but down slightly from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 31.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 11.0 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.7 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2008 is estimated at 14.2 million acres, up 7 percent from 2007. Of this total, about 13.4 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The Durum planted area for 2008 is 2.66 million acres, up 24 percent from the previous year.

(more)

GRAIN STOCKS

ILLINOIS

Stocks of **corn** in Illinois on June 1, 2008 were estimated at 777 million bushels, 22 percent above June 1, 2007. On-farm stocks were 300 million bushels, up 25 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 477 million bushels, were up 21 percent. The March-May indicated disappearance was 531 million bushels, compared to the disappearance of 514 million bushels last year.

Soybean stocks were estimated at 112.1 million bushels on June 1, 2008, 38 percent below a year earlier. Soybean stocks have not been this low in June since 2004 when stocks were 68 million bushels. On-farm stocks totaled 31 million bushels, which compares to 73 million on June 1, 2007. Off-farm stocks totaled 81.1 million bushels, 25 percent below the previous year. The March-May indicated disappearance for stocks in all positions was 108.1 million bushels, 11 percent below the disappearance of 122.1 million bushels a year ago.

Wheat stocks on June 1, 2008 were estimated at 6.32 million bushels, 58 percent below a year ago, and the lowest level since 2004, when stocks were 5.4 million bushels. Off-farm stocks were 6.25 million bushels, 99 percent of the total stocks.

UNITED STATES

Corn stocks in all positions on June 1, 2008 totaled 4.03 billion bushels, up 14 percent from June 1, 2007. Of the total stocks, 1.97 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 8 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.06 billion bushels, are up 21 percent from a year ago. The March - May 2008 indicated disappearance is 2.83 billion bushels, compared with 2.53 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on June 1, 2008 totaled 676 million bushels, down 38 percent from June 1, 2007. On-farm stocks totaled 227 million bushels, down 55 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 449 million bushels, are down 24 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance for the March - May 2008 quarter totaled 758 million bushels, up 9 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on June 1, 2008 totaled 306 million bushels, down 33 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 25.6 million bushels, down 65 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 280 million bushels, are down 27 percent from a year ago. The March - May 2008 indicated disappearance is 404 million bushels, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

#